

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for monitoring a plurality of devices in a common environment.

The method comprises the steps of receiving usage information from one of the devices and storing the usage information on a memory device of a computer.

- 5 The method further comprises the steps of using the computer to automatically access a remote database containing information regarding the device and transmitting the stored usage information to the remote database. The information is received from the remote database and an action to be taken by the device is generated using the information from the remote database and the
- 10 stored usage information.

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